

37-M

~~SECRET~~Action
ARAControl: 2890
Rec'd: November 8, 1962
1:56 p.m.Info
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INR
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RMR

FROM: Caracas

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 560, November 8, noon

NIACT

ACTION DEPARTMENT 560 INFORMATION BOGOTA 23

DEPARTMENT PASS ARMY, NAVY, AIR, POLADS CINCARIB AND CINCLANT

Reference: EMBTEL 550 and 559.

two Venezuelan destroyers will put out from Puerto Cabeelo at noon today and put in to La Guaira at 1830 on way to report to COMSOLANT at Trinidad to participate in Cuban quarantine.

This has not been announced nor has President informed me to Tuesday's still unpublished Cabinet approval of decree authorizing participation, as it was indicated to Embassy he would do. President has been holed up in Miraflores Palace, where he usually goes in times trouble, for most last of 48 hours, and have not been able reach him.

President's action and presumably delay in announcing Venezuelan participation Cuban quarantine, apparently connected with Rightist plotting of still unclear dimensions in armed forces. In past few days Navy Captain Andres De La Rosa, Commanders Pablo Conde Ecarri and Alvaro Del Castillo Jantzen, and reportedly Captain Orlando Medina Sauce, director of Naval War College, have been arrested as have Air Force Captain Marquez Garcia pilot and aid to Defense Minister General Brinceno and Serrano Lopez. Possibly other arrests also

-made-

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MB

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Subord. 01/04/88

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-2- 560, November 8, noon, from Caracas

made.

Exact nature of plot and cause for alarm not yet known. However, General Briceno known to have made hurried trip to Maracay Air Force Base on November 6. General Staff and Army Headquarters put on full alert that night and police also put on alert on November 7. However, staff and Army Headquarters put back to 50 percent alert late yesterday and situation surface normal.

Will see President as soon as he is able receive me.

Loss pressure Mobil pipeline reported yesterday proved to be instrument failure, not sabotage.

STEWART

DMB

Note: Relayed to Army, Navy, Air, POLAD CINCARIB, POLAD CINCLANT OSD, CIA 11/8/62

NOTE: Advance copies to Mr. Moskowitz (ARA) and SS 11-8-62 CWO-M

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

EXCISE

87

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